

Kayron
Whitworth
honored with
bridal shower

Regan Danner
celebrates his
second birthday

Drew Floyd
makes Millbrook
National All-Star
baseball team

The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 7

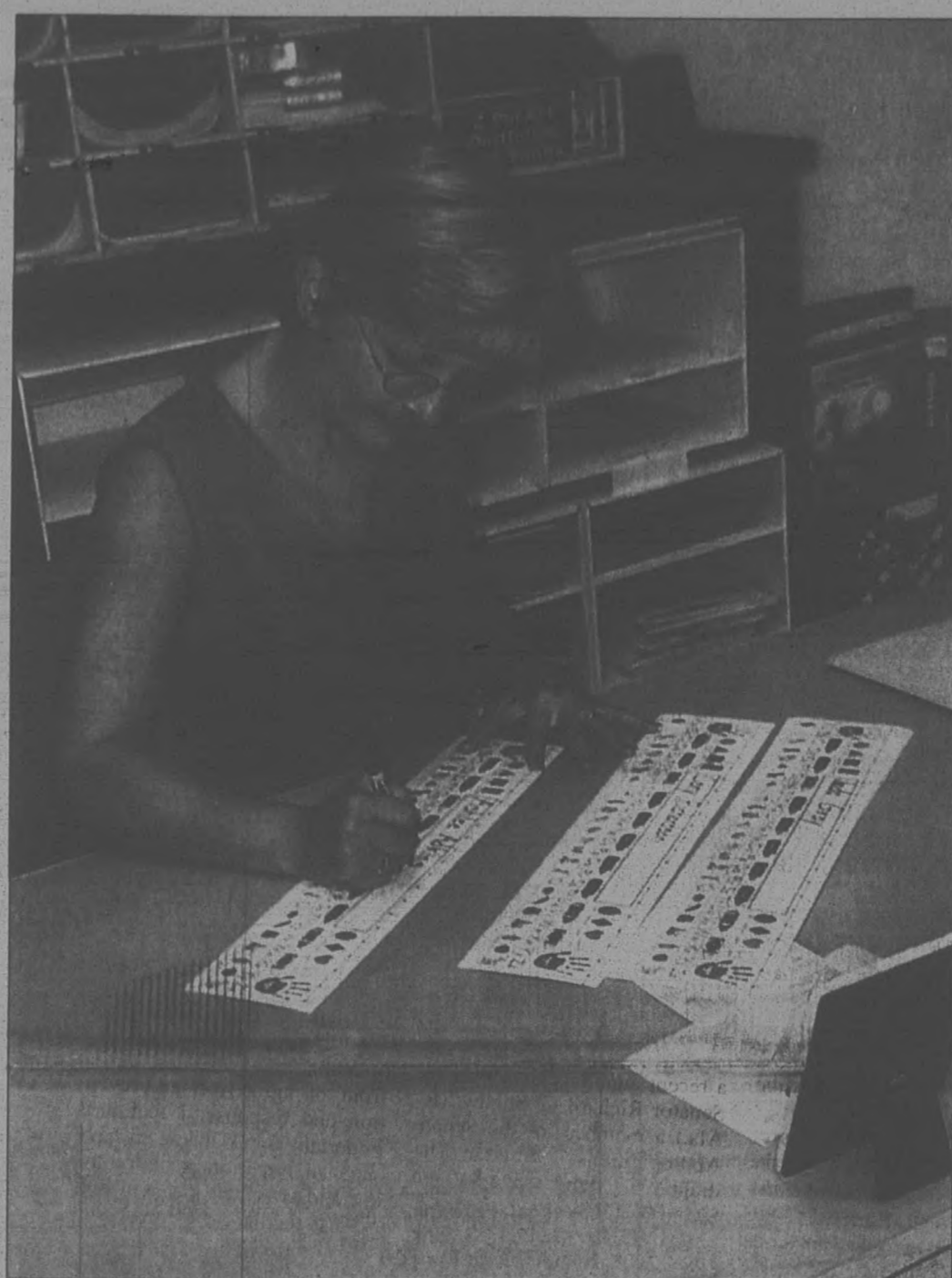
50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 1, 2002

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Students return to school next week



The education of today's youth makes its way back to the top of everyone's agenda in Elba and Coffee County next week as students and teachers return to the classroom. Summer break is over, and students will once again return to the familiar scene of homework, pop quizzes and everyday studying. For students attending the Coffee County Schools (Zion Chapel, New Brockton and Kinston), it will be back to the classroom first thing Monday morning, Aug. 5, for a whole day of learning. As for the students of the Elba City Schools, they will make their first appearance on Tuesday morning, Aug. 6, for only half a day. With the return of the students just around the corner, teachers and administrators have already returned to the routine of things and are diligently preparing for the first day of school. Above, Elba Elementary School teacher Debbie Rhoades was found Tuesday afternoon, July 30, working in her classroom. Just as any teacher would, Rhoades was hoping to create a warm inviting atmosphere for the second grade students that will spend the 2002-2003 school year in her classroom.

State health officer issues alert for West Nile Virus

Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer, announced that 82 birds have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV) in 17 Alabama counties to date in 2002. "Public health surveillance for the virus has detected no infections in horses or humans in Alabama this year," said Dr. Williamson, "but mosquitoes positive for West Nile virus were also collected in traps in counties near both the Tennessee and Florida borders. Because WNV has been detected so widely in the state, we can conclude it is present statewide, and so everyone needs to take precautions to reduce their chances of being bitten by mosquitoes."

The counties reporting positive birds and the total numbers found are as follows: Baldwin, 4; Coffee, 8; Covington, 2; Dale, 11; Geneva, 1; Hale, 1; Henry, 1; Houston, 1; Jefferson, 1; Lamar, 1; Lauderdale, 1; Mobile, 21; Montgomery, 21; Shelby, 1; St. Clair, 5; Talladega, 1; and Tuscaloosa, 1. Positive mosquito pools have been found in Coffee and Marshall counties during July. Officials said that virus activity has already surpassed the 2001 surveillance totals, which reported 59 positive birds in 13 counties for the entire year. "The first positive bird last year was not found until August," said Dr. Bill Johnston, state public health veterinarian, "so we can expect a banner year for virus activity." The predicted return of El Nino this fall will

also likely extend the mosquito season, Johnston said. Johnston re-emphasized that WNV should be considered established completely across the state, and that preventive measures and mosquito control procedures should be practiced statewide. He warned that counties not having WNV identified is more a reflection of sampling and surveillance, not the absence of the virus.

WNV and other mosquito-borne viruses such as Eastern Equine Encephalitis are transmitted from bird to mosquito to bird. Occasionally, the same mosquitoes will take blood from mammals, including humans and horses, and pass the virus to them.

Virus surveillance has been conducted statewide for the past three years. Last year, Alabama experienced substantial Eastern Equine Encephalitis activity. Epidemiologists point out that EEE is much more dangerous to people and other mammals than WNV, but that the same mosquito prevention measures reduce exposures to both. To date this year, there have been no cases of EEE in humans or horses in Alabama.

According to Dr. Williamson, "Most people who are infected with WNV do not even get sick. However, a small proportion of people—mostly people over 60—may become ill with symptoms of encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) and require hospitalization."

The health department will

continue to notify local officials of test results and recommend methods of prevention. Since its introduction to the U.S. in 1999, WNV has tended to be easier to detect than other arthropod-borne viruses.

"Unlike other encephalitis viruses that maintain their cycle with wild birds, WNV kills many of the infected birds—especially crows, blue jays and

Please See WNV, Page 3

With 2002-2003 school term set to begin

Coffee County BOE battles personnel changes

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Members of the Coffee County Board of Education got quite a surprise last Tuesday evening, July 23, during a called meeting of the board as chairman Charles Walker read the resignation letter of one of his peers.

District Six member Gene Barksdale submitted his letter of resignation, effective Aug. 1, as a member of the Coffee County Board of Education. According to the letter, Barksdale is moving out of the area and will not be able to complete his term.

Mr. Barksdale was sworn in as a board member in April of 2001 after being appointed by the other board members to complete the term for the District Six seat which was left vacant following the death of his wife, Joyce Barksdale, in February of 2001.

During last week's meeting, several of the board members expressed their gratitude towards Barksdale for filling the seat after his wife's death, and each said they had enjoyed working with both Mr. and Mrs. Barksdale.

Following the acceptance of Barksdale's letter, Walker said the board will have 30-days to fill the vacant District Six seat. The person appointed will serve for the remainder of the term on the six-year term for the District Six seat.

The District Six seat represents the Enterprise area of the county, and Walker said he had discussed with Barksdale any suggestions he might have concerning a good person to fill the position.

Walker told board members

that Barksdale had recommended Larry Eddins for the position. Eddins, a resident of Enterprise, is a former teacher and coach, and Walker said Barksdale felt he would be a good person to appoint as the District Six board member.

Therefore, Walker made a motion to contact Eddins and ask him to join the Coffee County Board of Education as the District Six representative. His motion received a second from board member Jimmy Clark.

Vice-chairman Danny Jernigan said he felt Barksdale would only have the best interest of the Coffee County Board of Education and schools at heart with his recommendation and would support that recommendation.

With that said, the board approved the motion by a unanimous vote.

With school set to begin next week, the board took action concerning several personnel matters; however, Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said there are still some unfilled positions.

"We may have to start school with some substitutes," Ingram

said. "But, we are looking really hard to fill those positions."

Personnel matters approved during the Tuesday, July 23, meeting included:

Certificated

* Accept the resignation of Susan Howell, first grade teacher at Zion Chapel Elementary School.

* Accept the resignation of Ann Allison, Alabama Reading Initiative Reading Specialist for New Brockton and Zion Chapel Elementary Schools.

* Accept the resignation of Mickey Jacobs, science and P.E. teacher at Kinston School.

* Accept the resignation of Anita Grant, business education teacher at New Brockton High School.

* Change Marsha Martin's contract from 10 to 9 1/2 months effective 2002-2003 school year, as per her request. Mrs. Martin teaches business education at New Brockton High School.

* Employ Carl Linton as a kindergarten teacher at Kinston School.

Please See BOE, Page 3

Elba Diagnostic Lab to receive funds

The Elba Diagnostic Laboratory will be one of the recipients of funding for several Alabama projects, according to a recent announcement by U.S. Senator Richard C. Shelby, (R-Ala.), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. The diagnostic lab will receive \$750,000.

Sen. Shelby said, "This funding will allow Auburn University to purchase an Alkaline Digester Carcass

Disposal System to be placed at the J.B. Taylor Diagnostic Laboratory in Elba. The purchase of this system will allow Alabama to move into the forefront of agroterrorism prevention and response. I feel it is important for Alabama to have such an important tool for the quick disposal of diseased animals so we may prevent a widespread outbreak and protect our agricultural producers and consumers."

During recent Elba Rotary Club meeting

Senator Holley provides U.S. Hwy. 84 project update

by Linda Hodge, Editor

State Senator Jimmy Holley recently served as the guest speaker at the weekly luncheon of the Elba Rotary Club and spent the majority of his time updating the members on the four-laning project of U.S. Highway 84 from Andalusia to Enterprise.

While speaking of the road project, Holley gave a brief synopsis of 12 separate sections along the roadway which took the project from Andalusia to Enterprise.

Immediately, it was recognized that some sections have progressed quicker than others; however, the rotary members were assured that progress is being made in each section. The progress report presented



From left: Elba Mayor James Grimes, Alabama Senator Jimmy Holley and Elba Rotarian Everett Kelley.

by Holley reflected the following:

1. Andalusia to Sanford - 50 percent of right-of-way has been purchased with an estimated construction project letting in the Winter of 2002;
2. Sanford to Babbie - 20 percent of the right-of-way has been purchased with an estimated construction project letting in the Spring of 2003;
3. Babbie to U.S. Hwy. 331 at the Opp Bypass - 70 percent of the right-of-way has been purchased with an estimated construction project letting in the Summer of 2002;
4. Opp Bypass to Coffee County Line - this section was let to contract on April 26, 2002;
5. Coffee County Line to 2500' West of Alabama Hwy. 141 in the Curtis community - 97 percent of the right-of-way has been purchased and construction project letting was held June 28, 2002;
6. 2500' West of Alabama Hwy. 141 to 6500' East of Alabama Hwy. 141 in Curtis community - design alternative being reconsidered with the estimated construction project letting in the Spring of 2004;
7. 6500' West of Alabama Hwy. 141 to County Rd. 364/State Rd. 203 Intersection in Elba - 10 percent of right-of-way has been purchased with estimated construction project letting in the Summer of 2003;
8. County Rd. 364/State Rd. 203 Intersection in Elba to Alabama Hwy. 125 - right-of-way acquisition has begun with the estimated construction project letting in the Fall of 2003;
9. Alabama Hwy. 125 to 1/2 Mile East of Alabama Hwy. 87 - right-of-way limits to be determined within next six months and estimated construction project letting set for Fall of 2003;

Please See CLUB, Page 3

NOTICE

Garbage pick-up time for Arrow Disposal in the New Brockton City Limits has changed.

Please be sure to have garbage out by 6 a.m. on Tuesday. Pick-up will be between the hours of 7 a.m. and 12 Noon.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

As predicted in this slot last week the past weekend was spent at a meeting of newspaper folks. It just so happened that we spent those three "working" days at Orange Beach, AL - what better place to discuss important developments in the newspaper field? Well as the day drew on Saturday, those chairs got harder and harder and our mind more confused than ever. Having already opted out of the evening banquet (\$45.00 for \$6.00 cold food is a no-no for us), we started scurrying for a phone number to combine both our favorite pastimes - eating good food and visiting with family and/or friends. This time it was Elba native Craig Murdock, who manages one of the upscale restaurants on the beach, named simply "The Restaurant" at The Beach Club. He was a high schoolmate of our two older children. Now if anyone had ask us a week ago where you would be if you turned off the Gulf Shores Parkway on Ft. Morgan Rd. and drove 12 miles - we would have said "in the middle of Mobile Bay" but that isn't true. We drove down the designed road, or parkway, for the designated mileage, seeing little but trees and little pig trails going to beachside cabins. Then suddenly things opened up, a huge water tower dominated the skyline and Wharf there were four or five high rise buildings, a couple of two story buildings, tennis courts, etc. Anyway we asked the security guard how to get to the eating joint and actually correctly followed her instructions. After climbing the stairs to the second floor (where the view is great in every direction) we were trying to ask the hostess for a table when in a whirlwind Craig comes up and tells her he would handle this one. Anyway, he seated us at a table with a dream view of the gulf, sat and talked for a while as the tables all around us filled up, even took time to show off some pictures of his wife and cute two year old son. The appetizer, salad and seafood he recommended were great, the waitress an attentive darling - the list goes on and on. A couple at an adjoining table seemed to be enjoying the steaks while their three little girls were relishing hamburgers or chicken tenders. Craig's parents, Mickey and Elizabeth Murdock, can be proud of their middle son's success. We plan to make another pass down that way and find time to break bread with him again.

Our inside information on Alabama and Washington politics is overwhelming, following a weekend with folks who have all the answers, even before we know the questions. The most interesting thing would probably have been to record all those tidbits of knowledge, wait for things to play out and see if any one of them was correct. Actually the law of averages should make some of them right, but it would be almost impossible for all that stuff politicians, and political watchers, said to come to reality.

There is a lot of talk (dreaming) on the streets of Elba and virtually every other South Alabama town about spin off business from the new Hyundai plant being built South of Montgomery. The reality is that those folks don't like a lot of publicity about their plans, so we will have to be happy enjoying the rumors until some company is ready to announce they are coming to Elba or we realize that they have all gone in the other direction. Either way, each of us needs to put our best foot forward every day just in case they are considering coming our way.

A closer reality is in the news article on the front page about the federal money for the Digester Carpass Disposal System to be used at the local state lab. Senator Richard Shelby said last week that there is money in the subcommittee plan for this \$750,000 piece of equipment. Apparently this thing is state-of-the-art, as it will convert an entire infected animal body into harmless waste that can be dumped into the sewer system. Since the recent mad cow disease scare, dead cow and sheep bodies can't be sent to the rendering plants. Therefore disposal costs continue to climb and if there were any of the new scarier diseases to crop up, more serious problems would appear - without this digester. Again, we need to remember how indebted we are to our representatives in the legislatures, both state and nationally.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of July 22, 2002, through July 28, 2002. They were: Agnes Teresa Boothe, Katie Grant, James T. Clark, Pettie Lee Wambles, Pauline Wood, Shirley N. Dozier, Evelyn Dianne Duncan, Amanda Moore, Ruth Bryant, Mary Carpenter, Jimmy Davis, Marylene Grimes, Mary

Hudson, Mary Smith, Mary Crandel, James Senn, Leo Henderson, Betty English and Eric Bradshaw.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Evelyn Duncan, Pettie Lee Wambles, Agnes Boothe, Mary Carpenter, Shirley Dozier, Ruth Bryant, Katie Grant, Amanda Moore, Marylene Grimes, Jimmy Davis, Pauline Wood and Mary Smith.

Lordy, Lordy
Look Who's
40!!

The Elba Clipper

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$19 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

Jail time for corporate crooks is the best punishment

by Congressman Terry Everett
2312 Radburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

The nation is fed up with corporate wrongdoing as thousands of workers try to rebuild their lives after being victimized by greedy corporate bosses who feathered their own nests while their companies collapsed from shady accounting and mismanagement. In response, Congress and the White House have taken steps to toughen penalties for corporate fraud and the robbing of workers' pensions.

These steps are all good, but in my view, the best way to get the attention of boardroom crooks is by putting them in jail - a real jail, not an accounting club type jail where many high profile criminals spend time.

His business checks frequently go missing, and he often only face a slap on the wrist. Pointing fingers at officials with oversight over investigations into securities fraud will accomplish little so long as those guilty are allowed to escape

with their millions. Frankly, we can help stop the problem of corporate corruption in a hurry by putting a couple dozen CEOs in jail and take back from them every penny they illegally obtained.

Earlier this year, the US House passed a pair of bills (The Pension Security Act, and the Corporate and Auditing Accountability, Responsibility and Transparency Act) aimed at protecting the rights of workers and their pensions, and reforming corporate accounting oversight and disclosure. Given the state-of-the-art technology for fraud and wire fraud (statutes often involved in corporate wrongdoing) to ten years.

The President called for stronger penalties criminalizing document shredding, and he called on the United States Sentencing Commission to enhance prison time for criminal fraud when committed by corporate officers and directors. He also challenged Congress to provide funding for 100 additional enforcement officers and state-of-the-art technology for the Securities and Exchange Commission. Furthermore, he

announced the creation of a corporate crime SWAT team to coordinate federal civil and criminal investigations. While all this is good, I will look at even stronger legislation such as making sure these crooks lose all their assets, not just those gained through crooked deals.

The Elba Athletic Club is a non-profit organization that promotes 100% of earned funds to promote and support all athletics at both Junior and Varsity levels. Last year alone the club contributed over \$10,000 towards several projects to include: new uniforms, meals, trip expenses for away games, equipment, and re-awarding the school gym floor to name several endeavors.

As we kick off the 2002-03 school year we currently have 123 members. Our goal this year is to reach at least 200 members. We need your support to reach this goal for our children. The next Athletic Club meeting is scheduled for August 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School athletic dressing room. We are preparing for the big pre-season game with the Samson Tigers. We need your help to make this

fund raiser as well as future fund raisers as successful as in the past.

Please make plans to attend the August 5 meeting to help make 2002-03 a success for Elba Jr. and Varsity Sports.

Thank you!
Doug Martin - President
Gary Allen - Vice President
Freddie Thomas - Secretary/Treasurer

SHARE YOUR VIEWS - WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page One)

BOE

(Continued from Page One)

CLUB

(Continued from Page One)

WNV

(Continued from Page One)

Get Something To Sell?? Try The Classified Section of The Elba Clipper

Southeast Insurance & Real Estate

416 Claxton Ave., Elba, AL 36323
897-3431

NEW LISTING - Troy Hwy. - Frame Construction w/ Approximately 3 Acres & Large Workshop - Excellent for Starter or Retirement - Call To See -

INVESTMENT PROPERTY - CLAXTON AVE. - Two Duplex Apartments, Excellent Location, Real Apartments/Renodeled w/ New Roof - All Apartments Rented - Call for Appointment -

630 PINE COVE DR. - Ranch Style, Brick, 3-BR, 2 Baths, L/R, D/R, Den, 2-Car, Carpet w/ Storage, CH&A, 2-Ovens - Can Show Anytime -

WASHINGTON AVE. - Ranch Style, Frame Construction, 3 BR, 1 Bath, CH & A, Fenced Back Yard - Call To See -

2680 HICKMAN AVE. - Excellent Location, Close to School, 3 B/R, 1-1/2 Bath, CH&A, Den, LR - Can Show Anytime -

HIGHLAND DRIVE - Much Desired Location, One Residential Lot For Sale - Come By and We Will Show! -

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BROOKDALE - Brick, 3 B/R, 1 Bath, Den, L/R - Excellent Beginner and Empty Nest Home - Can Show Anytime!

CLAXTON AVE. - Commercial Building w/ Paved Parking, 3 Lots, Metal Construction, Approx. 11,000 Sq. Ft. Security System Excellent Location!! - Can Show Anytime!!

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY - Hwy. 231 N. of Troy, Excellent Location, Excellent Traffic Count, Corner Lot - 6.7 Acres MOL - Must See!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The Elba Athletic Club officers would like to thank each member of the Athletic Club for their support in making the 2001 school year we currently have 123 members. Our goal this year is to reach at least 200 members. We need your support to reach this goal for our children. The next Athletic Club meeting is scheduled for August 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School athletic dressing room. We are preparing for the big pre-season game with the Samson Tigers. We need your help to make this

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(Continued from Page One)

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(Continued from Page One)

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(Continued from Page One)

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(Continued from Page One)

PERSONAL PROTECTION, REPELLENTS

Follow the label instructions when applying repellents. Permethrin repellents are only for clothes - not for application on the skin.

When using repellents avoid contact with eyes, lips and nasal membranes.

Use concentrations of less than 10 percent when applying DEET-containing products on children.

Apply DEET repellent on arms, legs, and other exposed areas, but never under clothing.

After returning indoors, wash treated skin with soap and water. Citronella candles and repellents containing citronella can help, but their range is limited. Herbs such as cedar, geranium, pennyroyal, lavender, cinnamon, and garlic are not very effective.

PERSONAL PROTECTION, AROUND THE HOME

Mosquito activity peaks at dusk and again at dawn, restrict outdoor activity during these hours.

Keep windows and door screens in good condition.

Replace porch lights with yellow light bulbs, that will attract fewer insects.

Mosquitoes breed in standing water, empty all water from old tires, cans, jars, buckets, drums, plastic watering pots, toys, and other containers. Clean clogged gutters.

Homeowners should make a careful inspection around their homes to be sure nothing holds water for longer than three days.

Remove the rim from potted plants and replace water in plant/flower vases weekly.

Replenish pet watering dishes daily and empty bird baths twice weekly.

Fill tree holes and depressions left by fallen trees with dirt or sand.

Stock ornamental ponds with mosquito fish or use larvicide "doughnuts."

Remember Those You Loved With A Memorial Gift

If you've lost a loved one to cancer, please consider a memorial donation and help us fight this terrible disease.

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CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

Basin Baptist to celebrate Homecoming, Sunday, August 11

Basin Baptist Church will be observing Homecoming Sunday, August 11. Rev. Sam Totten, minister at Basin Baptist invites everyone to attend. A covered dish lunch will follow morning worship in the fellowship hall.

Benefit Bar B Q to be held for John Boutwell at Mt. Pleasant Church

A Benefit Bar B Q will be held for John Boutwell on August 17, 2002 from 10:30 a.m. until at Mount Pleasant Church. Plates will include Bar B Q, rice, coleslaw, Brunswick stew and dessert. For more information call Old Country Store at 393-5721 or Barbara Medley at 393-1602.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT...?

A Service of the Elba Church of Christ

Does Mark 16:9-20 belong in the Bible?

N.S. For any passage of Scripture to belong in the Bible it must be inspired to God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Therefore for Mark 16:9-20 to belong in the Bible it must have come from the mind of God. If it is from God it must be the truth (John 17:17), and cannot contradict the truth of any other passage of Scripture. Does Mark 16:9-20 teach error? No! Everything stated in this text is either recorded in the other 3 gospel accounts and/or supported by other passages of Scripture. Did Jesus after His resurrection appear unto Mary Magdalene, and did she tell the disciples about His appearing to her? Yes (Mark 16:9-11; Luke 24:10-11). Did Jesus appear to two of His disciples in another form? Yes (Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-15). Did Jesus appear to the rest of the disciples? Yes (Mark 16:14, 1 Corinthians 15:5). Did Jesus tell His disciples to preach the gospel to every creature? Yes (Mark 16:15, Matthew 28:19). Did Jesus tell His disciples: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned? Yes (Mark 16:16; Matthew 28:19). Did Jesus say that the word would be confirmed by miracles? Yes (Mark 16:17-20; Hebrews 2:1-4). So why would there be any question about Mark 16:9-20 belonging in the Bible? Because there is no way to get around Mark 16:16! So in an attempt to cast suspicion upon the Lord's statement, which makes clear that baptism is essential for salvation, it is often raised to view that it is not found in "the two most reliable early manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do not have Mark 16:9-20 (NIV 1978)." But the NKJV states correctly, "nearly all other manuscripts of Mark contain them." The two so-called most reliable manuscripts are the Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus. But it is merely human judgment to say these are the most reliable. In fact, many disagree with that assessment. For there are other certain fragments older than these two manuscripts that have passage, and early writers Justin Martyr and Irenaeus, who lived in the 2nd century, quote from it. To say that Mark 16:9-20 does not belong in the Bible, is to try to get around the truth of God's word.

Jimmy Simmons

If you would like to submit a question for consideration to be used in this column, please send it to: "Questions and Answers," c/o Elba Church of Christ, P. O. Box 269, Elba, AL 36323. We invite everyone to attend the services of the Elba Church of Christ. Please call 897-2057 for times of services.

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

Scripture: Proverbs 1:1-19

***Thinking of you, praying for you... O.B. Daniels, Ella M. Brooks, Leq Henderson, Versie Barnes, Lavie Hooks, Rev. Henry Ewing, Jr., Rev. E. Magwood, Wallace Belcher, John E. Folmar, Julia Phillips, Estelle Larkin, Rev. John Holey, Sr., Vick E. Lindsey and Helen Folmar. ***A concert will be held at Elba Zion Baptist Church on August 4, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. Featuring Joseph Brown and the Choral Ensemble from Washington D.C. ***Oak Grove Baptist Church, softball tournament will be held August 3, 2002 at Hawkins Williams Field, Elba, Ala. ***Rocky Head Baptist Church will host a softball tournament on August 24, 2002 at Hawkins Williams Field, Elba, Ala. ***Greater New Zion Baptist Church will celebrate home-

coming on August 4, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. The speaker will be C.L. Hollis, pastor of County-Line Baptist Church in Brundidge, Ala. Revival services will follow August 5-9, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. nightly. The revivalist for the week will be Dr. S.C. Hudson, pastor of Greater Sardis Baptist Church in Ozark, Ala. ***Harris Temple Outreach Ministry, 742 Adams Street, Elba, Ala., will hold First Conference on August 10, 2002 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ***Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church will hold a revival August 12-16, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. nightly. The evangelist for the week will be Nathaniel Larkins, pastor of Sweet Pilgrim M.B. Church in Brundidge, Ala. Today is a good day, be grateful!

Elia

Homecoming planned at Shiloh Baptist Church

Shiloh Baptist Church will celebrate homecoming on Sunday, August 4. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. with former pastor Larry Wise bringing the message. Sunday school will not be held. Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. With a note burning and singing in the afternoon. A revival will follow August 5 - August 9 at 7:00 p.m. nightly. Sam Totten will be the speaker.

Gospel singing to be held at the Elba Zion Missionary Baptist Church

Elba Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Elba will hold a gospel singing on Sunday, August 4, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. Featuring Joseph Brown, the D.C. Choral Ensemble, and gospel singing on Sunday, August 4, 2002 at 3:00 p.m.

American Sign Language Class being offered August 13- October 4th

The Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind will be offering an American Sign Language I Class from August 13 - October 1 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Dothan Regional Center located at 111 Medical Drive, Dothan. Cost of the class will be \$40. Last date for registration is August 9, 2002. For more information call 677-6270.

Gospel Singing to be held at The American Legion Building in Elba

A gospel sing will be held Saturday evening, August 10 at the American Legion building on North Troy Hwy at Legion Field in Elba. Doors will be open at 5:00 p.m. for an indoor picnic, the concert will begin at 6:00 p.m. Featured groups include: Derek Snellgrove, Unity, Masters Call and Cathy Harrell. This is a fundraising project with all proceeds being used by the American Legion members to do needed renovations and repairs to the building. For more information call Ray Kyle at 897-5851.

John Lanier to be in concert at Klondyke Gospel Music Center

John Lanier will be in concert on August 9, 7:00 p.m. at the Klondyke Gospel Music Center, Highway 123. There will be no charge for admission.

Holloway Tabernacle to sponsor a Men's Retreat on August 2nd & 3rd

A Men's Retreat will be held August 2 and 3 on Friday night the worship service will be at 7:00 p.m., Saturday morning will begin with prayer at 7:00 a.m., continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and worship service at 9:00 a.m. The retreat will be held at Holloway Tabernacle A/G. The guest speaker will be Ken Drughorn. For more information call Bill at 793-1781, Larry 893-1802, Howard Moore at 894-8139.

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LIFESTYLES



Meta Gatlin

Meta Gatlin named All-American Scholar recently

The United States Achievement Academy has recently announced that Meta Gatlin of Jack, Ala. has been named an All-American Scholar. She will appear in the All-American Scholar Yearbook, which is published nationally.

Meta attends Zion Chapel High School, she was nominated for this national award by Mrs. Cara Knighten. Meta is the daughter of Glenn and Gail Gatlin of Jack, Ala. Grandparents are Ivey and the late Grady Grantham of Elba, Ala. and Erma Neil and the late Pete Gatlin of Jack, Ala.

Locklar Reunion planned for Saturday, August 3

The Locklar reunion will be held August 3, 10:00 a.m. at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton, Ala. The reunion is for the descendants of Hatti J. and Henry F. Locklar. A covered dish lunch will be served at noon. For more information call Mammie Locklar at 894-5548.

Parker Reunion to be held Saturday, August 24

The Parker reunion will be held Saturday, August 24, beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Farm Center in New Brockton, Ala. The reunion will be held for the descendants and relatives of Peter Parker of North Carolina who settled in present day Basin Community of Coffee County in 1820. Attendees should bring a covered dish and/or a beverage. Bring family history information and old family pictures.

New Brockton Elementary School to hold Open House

New Brockton Elementary School will hold Open House on August 1 at 6:30 p.m. Come meet teacher and bring school supplies.



Abdel & Falisha Bilal

Abdel & Falisha Bilal celebrate eighteenth wedding anniversary

Abdel and Falisha Bilal celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary on July 14. They have three children: Rashad, Ahmad and Courtney. Falisha is the daughter of Tommy and Mary Helen Robinson of Elba. Abdel is the son of Ahmed M. Bilal and Mattie Ann Bilal of Brooklyn, N.Y. He is the grandson of the late Ludessa Jones of Elba.



Zane Stroud

Zane Stroud is one year old

Zane Thomas Stroud, son of Tom and Vanessa Stroud of Birmingham, Ala., recently celebrated his first birthday with a sand box party at his home. His cake was in the shape of a sand castle and was enjoyed by Zane and his little friends, as well as family. His grandparents are Paul and Peggy Stroud of Elba, and Gene and Rilla Hardin of Warner Robins, Ga.

Miss Kayron Whitworth was honored with miscellaneous bridal shower on July 21st

On Sunday afternoon, July 21, 2002, Miss Kayron Whitworth, bride-elect of Mr. Kelly Shehee, was honored with a miscellaneous shower at the lovely home of Mrs. Janice McCall on Neil Grantham Drive.

The beautifully manicured yards and colorful flowers beckoned the guests to the front entry of the home, the setting for numerous bridal showers. A cluster of wedding bells tied to a watermelon bow, the bride's chosen color for her wedding, adorned the front door of the home. Ms. McCall, bearing her usual smile, greeted the many friends and relatives who registered between the hours of half past one and three o'clock. The hostess presented the guests to the bride-elect, who was radiant in her watermelon dress. Joining Miss Whitworth in the receiving line were her mother, Mrs. Kaye Whitworth, Mrs. Ruth Mack, maternal grandfather and affectionately called "Mene" by the honoree, Mrs. Tena Shehee, mother of the future groom, and Mrs. Gladys Shehee, paternal grandmother of the future groom. The honoree's number one Aunt Retta, Mrs. Henrietta Grimes, also joined in the receiving line on occasion when she was not sneaking around making snapshots of the hostesses and other guests.

Miss Lisa Grimes, a special cousin of the bride-elect, registered the guests from a table holding the bride's book and a vase of multi-colored zinnias. She then directed the guests to the dining room for refreshments. Miss Brittany McCall, a life-long friend of the honoree, laid out the cool, refreshing punch. Traditional party dainties were served from silver appointments. The dining table, covered with a pristine white Battenberg tablecloth, was enhanced by a large arrange-



Pictured seated: Miss Kayron Whitworth-honoree; standing L to R: Mrs. Kaye Whitworth, Mrs. Henrietta Grimes, Mrs. Gladys Shehee, Mrs. Tena Shehee, Mrs. Ruth Mack and Mrs. Janice McCall.

ment of mixed cut flowers. Ms. Vernetta Maddox, Ms. Velma Moore, Ms. Linda Westbrook, Ms. Linda Mills, Ms. Jumell Tindol, Ms. JoRuth English, and Ms. Anita Grimes.

Damascus School Reunion planned for August 10

The annual Damascus School Reunion will be held Saturday, Aug. 10, from 10:30 until on the site of the old school building on County Road 514 and corner of State Road 87. This is the site of the old Damascus Senior Citizens Building. Bring a covered dish. Bring pictures and articles for door prizes and auctions.

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Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE, AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF GOD Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA ASSEMBLY OF GOD Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA 14 BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA 14 BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA 14 BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA 14 BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA 14 BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. 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COMMUNITY

Ramona Grantham receives promotion at SouthTrust Bank to Loan Officer

Mark O'Mary, CEO of SouthTrust Bank, announces the recent promotion of Ramona K. Grantham to SouthTrust Loan Officer for the Elba Office. Mrs. Grantham has been with SouthTrust for 19.5 years. Mrs. Grantham has held many job functions in the bank such as bookkeeper, new accounts representative, and her most current position as Consumer Lender. Mrs. Grantham is a graduate of Zion Chapel High School and MacArthur Technical School in Business and Accounting. Mrs. Grantham resides in the Zion Chapel Community and is married to Billy R. Grantham and has two sons, Brad and Chan; three grandchildren. She is a member of Zion Chapel Baptist Church.



Ramona Grantham

ESJC Fall Semester classes to begin August 21

Enterprise State Junior College Fall Semester classes will begin on August 21. Regular registration ends Tuesday, August 20. Students may take advantage of late registration through August 23. Class schedules are available at area businesses, city government offices, Chambers of Commerce, libraries, ESJC

main campus and Ft. Rucker campus. The schedule is also available at the ESJC website, www.esjc.cc.al.us. For more information about admission to the College or how to register for classes, call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234 at the main campus, 334-59-3438 at the Ft. Rucker campus, or visit the website!

Renovations being done at Lyster Army hospital at Ft. Rucker

Lyster Army Hospital, at Ft. Rucker, AL, is continuing a program of repairs and renovations that may not be immediately apparent, but will affect patients visiting some clinics. New roof work on the hospital will cause temporary relocations for some clinics during the next few months. There will be periods when the entrance to clinics such as the Ambulatory Care Clinic and the Aviation Medicine Clinic may be temporarily changed. However, notifications will be posted well in advance. At the same time, renovations will be ongoing in parts of the hospital in an effort to continue providing quality medical care in an efficient, contemporary setting. Anyone with questions, concerns or suggestions may contact the Lyster Public Affairs Office at 255-7337.



Wallace Community College opens evening courses in auto body repair

Wallace Community College recently announced its plans to offer evening classes in auto body repair at the Wallace Campus in Dothan. Dwight Baker, of the College's Sparks Campus in Eufaula, will provide instruction for the Dothan program three nights per week. According to Baker, the evening program is ideal for beginning or intermediate-level auto body repair students.

Shannon Thomas, WCC's coordinator of humanities and the sciences, said the College offered the evening schedule as a means of helping working students meet their needs in learning new skills and upgrading existing skills.

According to Thomas, there has been a steady increase in demand in services for refinishing and painting automobiles.

Dr. Barbara Alford has been named Interim President of Troy State University Dothan, according to Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor of Troy State University. Dr. Alford, currently executive vice president at Dothan, was appointed to replace Dr. Michael Malone, who was recently appointed Executive Director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. Dr. Malone had served as Troy State University Dothan President since 1996.

Troy State university System administrative appointment announced

Dr. Barbara Alford has been named Interim President of Troy State University Dothan, according to Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor of Troy State University. Dr. Alford, currently executive vice president at Dothan, was appointed to replace Dr. Michael Malone, who was recently appointed Executive Director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. Dr. Malone had served as Troy State University Dothan President since 1996.

Chancellor Hawkins made the announcement to the Dothan faculty and staff on Thursday via teleconference.

"Dr. Alford is a proven, capable leader and has worked well with the Troy State University System and the Dothan community," Dr. Hawkins said, "and forward to her service in this position."

Dr. Alford has served at TSU since 1993, beginning as vice president for special programs and serving as vice president for student affairs from 1995-97. Dr. Alford worked at George C. Wallace State Community College in Dothan from 1984-93, rising to the post of administrative dean.

In a related move, Dr. Ed Roach was named Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and

DHR: Sewing Seeds of Success

A family's struggle for balance. Marge's mental condition dictated that she have supervised care. It was difficult, but she seemed to understand and welcome the support. None of her family was willing to live with her because of her previous behaviors. She did have a niece who wanted to be her conservator/guardian to control decisions regarding Marge's life. However, this niece did not always make decisions in Marge's best interest.

The Department of Human Resources found a placement for Marge in a Communal Living Facility in Birmingham. Marge was satisfied with the placement and was comfortable with her environment. For no apparent reason, Marge's niece was dissatisfied with the situation. She had Marge uprooted and placed in another home in Birmingham. This decision was totally unsatisfactory, and after a short period Marge was moved back to the Communal Living Facility.

The niece however, refused to send Marge's personal belongings to the home. Marge was upset for weeks because she did not have her belongings. Her niece decided that a nursing home was the best plan for her aunt, and started the process for moving her again. Marge was

upset by her niece's actions and became more difficult and disoriented. A "level two" mental screening was ordered. The niece became more agitated and demanded that she be given the authority to make decisions for her aunt. DHR helped Marge get her situation before the Probate Court. She testified that she was happy with the care she received at the Communal Living Facility, and she wanted to stay there. Marge agreed that she wanted the operator of the living facility to become her guardian. She told the court she did not want her niece to be her guardian. The court found that the appointment of a guardian was necessary and appointed the operator of the facility as Marge's guardian.

Today, Marge is happy and comfortable living in a least restrictive environment. She has her personal belongings to bring her comfort. She has found a place where she can cope with life. Marge is one more success story that reveals DHR's commitment to helping people gain balance in their lives. (This is a true story, but names and some details have been changed to protect client privacy. If you learn more about DHR go to www.dhr.state.al.us or call 334-242-1850.)

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Seth Hammett to receive award

An award banquet honoring House Speaker Seth Hammett will be held Friday, Aug. 2, beginning at Noon at the Andalusia Country Club, located on Country Club Road. Speaker Hammett will be receiving the Alabama Department of Human Resources' Hero Award, presented for long-term advocacy for improving services for Alabama children. Speaker Hammett has played a leading role in increasing payments to foster parents, expanding child day care services and improving services to abused and neglected children. State DHR Commissioner Bill Fuller will present the award, and many local officials are expected to attend the event.

Seth Hammett

Red Cross Heroes for the American Red Cross

The Coffee County Chapter of the American Red Cross announces its Heroes for the American Red Cross fund-raising campaign beginning on July 19 and continuing until August 14, 2002. This money will fund disaster services and daily operations in Coffee County. Please support this effort by making a donation to the three Heroes here in Elba. Their goal is \$3000. Contact Herby McCall at City Hall 897-2261, Brian McLeod at National Security 897-2273 Ext. 241, or Scott Kelley at Kelley Foods 897-5242 Ext. 102 to make a personal donation. Receipts available by request. Or, drop your contribution into the containers with the Red Cross logo at participating local merchants.

Brian McLeod

TSU Career Services Coordinator wins statewide award

Jo DeVane, Career Services Coordinator at Troy State University since 1998, has been named the Outstanding Placement Professional of the Year for the Alabama Association of Colleges and Employers (AAACE). AAACE brings college placement and career services officers together with human resources representatives from business and industry. Membership in AAACE provides information on employment opportunities for students and graduates of colleges and universities and it helps promote high standards of work and ethical practices. DeVane said, "DeVane, an AAACE past president, won one of four major awards presented each year by the organization. Susan Pierce, Director of Student Development/Counseling, said that DeVane deserved the honor. "Jo is always looking for new and innovative ways to place our graduates with good careers," Pierce said. "She is not content to do things the way they've always been done, and she provides a great service to students and employers alike."

Elba Library receives book from foresters

The Elba Public Library is the recipient of the book *Forest Plants of the Southeast and Their Wildlife Uses* by James H. Miller and Karl V. Miller. The Alabama Foresters' Association, in donating the book, hopes to further education and supply valuable management information to the many forest owners in Coffee County, and the book is meant to be a guide to both prevalent and unique species that inhabit Southeastern forests, forest openings, margins, and rights-of-way.

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Elba Elementary School Menu Aug. 6 - 9, 2002

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Tuesday - Pancakes & Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk Wednesday - Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk Thursday - Pop Tart, Cereal, Juice, Milk Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - No Lunch Served - Students dismissed at 11:20 a.m. Wednesday - Pizza, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Corn on Cob, Applesauce, Milk Thursday - Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Peas & Carrots, Roll, 1/2 Apple, Milk Friday - Fishburger, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Diced Peaches, Milk

Regan Danner of Elba recently celebrated his second birthday

Regan Austin Danner, the son of Devin and Amy (Fuller) Danner of Elba, celebrated his second birthday on Monday, May 27. Regan is the grandson of Franklin and Louise Danner of Brundidge and Jennell Fuller of Elba. He is the great-grandson of Edna Farris of Elba and Octavia and Austin Ellis and Ada Danner, all of Brundidge. Regan was honored Sunday, May 26, with a "Bob the Builder" party. Helping him celebrate were family and friends.



Regan Austin Danner

Zion Chapel Elementary School - Supply List

Kindergarten Crayons (8 basic colors) Pencils 2 composition pencils Elmer's white glue (NO PASTE) Blunt-ended scissors (Fiskars are best) Supply Box Construction Paper (Assorted Colors) 2 Writing Tablets Book bag BOYS bring quart size Ziplock bag GIRLS bring gallon size Ziplock bag NO trapper keepers Please put your child's name on	all supplies First Grade 1 pack of construction paper 2 or 3 pencils Crayons Blunt scissors Elmer's Glue Pencil bag with zipper Book bag (needed daily) One 3-ring binder (plain in color) 3 two-sided pocket folders (plain in color) 2 rolls of paper towels 1 box of Kleenex NO trapper keepers Second Grade Notebook paper (regular wide ruled)	Crayons (8 or 16 only) Glue (roll on only) Pencils 2 composition books (single subject perforated) Plastic pencil keeper or Ziplock bag Kleenex Paper towels Scissors NO Trapper Keepers NO Pencil boxes Third Grade 1 package of assorted construction paper 3 packages of wide-ruled notebook paper 5 composition books with over 100 sheets	1 ruler (inches/centimeters) 2 pocket folders Elmer's glue or glue sticks Scissors Book bag Pencil/Crayon bags (no boxes) 3 packages of #2 pencils NO trapper keepers NO mechanical pencils Fourth Grade 6 pocket folders Six 3-subject spiral notebooks 1 box of colored pencils 1 box of crayons (24 count only) 1 ruler (inch/centimeter) 1 pair of sharp pointed school scissors Six #2 pencils Wide ruled writing paper (extra large package) School glue (roll on) 1 compass 1 protractor 2 rolls of paper towels 2 boxes of Kleenex 1 hand sanitizer NO trapper keepers
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by Susan Taylor
Extension Agent/NEP

There is an epidemic of childhood obesity in America and while many factors have contributed to this trend, the craze for high-calorie soft drinks and fruit-flavored drinks is partly to blame. Roughly 15 or 20 years ago, we had an explosion in the availability of these beverages. Sure, they were around a decade ago, but certainly not to the degree they are today. They're everywhere, and they come in these attractive packages that are highly marketable. And because you don't have to refrigerate them, they can be tucked in a backpack and consumed anytime during the day. Few would deny the convenience associated with these products. But with this convenience comes a highly concentrated source of calories. And when consumed in large amounts day in and day out, the end result is often obesity. Children up to age 11 need between 1,200 and 1,500 calories a day. Only four of these beverages typically add up to between 400 and 600 calories, so many children are deriving up to a third or even half of their daily caloric intake from these products. Studies have confirmed a high correlation between heavy consumption of these drinks and obesity. Indeed, children who consume large amounts of

these beverages tend to have higher body weights and higher levels of body fat. Equally disturbing, millions of children who are consuming these products in large amounts are foregoing milk, a nutritious food without limiting the intake of these beverages, because this will only contribute to obesity. Earlier generations of children drank a lot more milk, even if it was chocolate milk. But as casual milk consumption is replaced with these high-calorie beverages, the concern is that this will lead to loss of bone minerals in kids. The result could be an epidemic of osteoporosis in the future. Even worse, low milk consumption, coupled with inadequate exercise, could result in osteoporosis developing much earlier in life. Experts, in fact, are already noting an increase in bone fractures among female teenagers athletes, a troubling sign of what may await many of these children as they get older. Equally bad, the crowding out of other foods associated with over-consumption of these products is also depriving children of other vital nutrients. By consuming a third or even a half of their calories from these drinks, kids are causing the hunger mechanism in their brains to become partly quenched. The result is that they're less hungry, and with less hunger, they're apt to eat

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1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Battle against West Nile Virus needs every citizen to help eliminate mosquitoes

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

West Nile virus, a disease that can be fatal to humans, horses and a number of other warm blooded animals and birds, is making its presence known here this summer in a very strong way. As of last week there have been four human deaths in Louisiana and a much larger number of confirmed illnesses from the mosquito spread infection.

The cycle of the virus includes mosquitoes feeding on the blood of a bird and thus infecting the bird. The virus incubates in the bird's blood and is transmitted to another mosquito which bites it. The mosquito has the virus particles stored in their salivary glands then bites a human (or horse) and transmits the infection to that host. Humans and horses are classified as "dead end" host because they don't produce enough of the viremia, and do not contribute to the transmission cycle. This is just one of many viruses that can be transmitted by the mosquito. Others include encephalitis, dengue fever, and malaria to humans, and a variety of diseases to wildlife and domestic animals including dog heart worms and eastern equine encephalitis.

Avoid mosquito bites by applying insect repellent when spending time outdoors. Use repellent safely. Always read and follow product instructions. Human illness from West Nile virus is rare, even in areas where the virus has been reported. The chance that any one person is going to become ill from a mosquito bite is low.

There is no documented evidence of person-to-person or animal-to-person transmission of WN virus. Because WN virus is transmitted by infectious

mosquitoes, dogs or cats could be exposed to the virus in the same way humans become infected. However there is very little evidence of dogs and cats dying or suffering extensive illnesses from the virus. There is no reason to destroy an animal just because it has been infected with WN virus. Full recovery from the infection is likely.

However approximately 40% of the horses known to be infected with the virus ultimately die. History: West Nile virus was first isolated from a female adult woman in the West Nile District of Uganda in 1937 (hence its name). From there it slowly spread to other countries. The first documented appearance of WN virus in United States was in 1999, with encephalitis reported in humans and horses.

Each year since the virus has seemed to arrive earlier in the year and be confirmed in more and more states. During 1999, 62 humans were diagnosed with West Nile encephalitis in New York City and 7 of those humans died. During 2000, 21 humans were diagnosed with West Nile encephalitis in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. 2 of those humans died. There were 59 reported human cases during 2001 with 5 deaths. Two of the cases during 2001 were detected in Alabama; one was a fatality.

Most people infected with the virus, however, do not even know it. Studies in the northeastern U.S. revealed that almost 200 people were infected for every person that showed any illness. Of the ill people, only about 1% developed encephalitis; around 10% of the encephalitis patients died.

West Nile Virus Transmission Cycle

